

Outer Continental Shelf Policy Committee

Charter

Official Designation

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Policy Committee.

Scope and Objectives

The OCS Policy Committee will provide advice to the Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Minerals Management Service (MMS) related to discretionary functions of the Bureau under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and related statutes. The Committee will review and comment on all aspects of leasing, exploration, development and protection of OCS resources and provide a forum to convey views representative of coastal states, local government, offshore mineral industries, environmental community, and other users of the offshore and the interested public.

Duration and Termination

This charter will terminate 2 years from the date it is filed, unless renewed prior to that date in compliance with section 14(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Committee's charter may be renewed by the Secretary as long as the Offshore Minerals Management Program of the Minerals Management Service requires the expertise and advice of the Committee.

Official to Whom the Committee Reports

The Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

Bureau Responsible for Providing Necessary Support

The Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service.

Estimated Annual Operating Costs

Annual activities of the Committee will require approximately \$75,000 and 1.5 work years of Federal employee support.

Description of Duties

The duties of the Committee are solely advisory and are stated in Scope and Objectives above.

Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings

The Committee will meet at the request of the Director, but not less than once a year. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the Committee Chair.

Travel Expenses

Each appointed non-Federal member or appointed alternate if attending in place of the non-Federal member will be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when attending Committee and subcommittee meetings in accordance with Federal travel regulations as implemented by the Department of the Interior.

Membership

The Secretary will appoint non-Federal members and their alternates to the Committee to serve a 2-year term. Non-Federal members may not serve more than three consecutive terms. The Secretary may revoke an appointment of the member and the alternate if the appointed member fails to attend two consecutive meetings. Previous service on the Minerals Management Advisory Board OCS Policy Committee will count as service on this Committee for purposes of determining eligibility. However, to facilitate the transition from the Minerals Management Advisory Board OCS Policy Committee, any member who has served three consecutive terms or more on that Committee is eligible to be nominated for an additional 2-year term on the OCS Policy Committee. After a 2-year break in service, that member will again be eligible for appointment.

Non-Federal Members

To ensure fair and balanced representation with consideration for the efficiency and fiscal economy of the Committee, the Secretary will appoint:

- One member from each state having Federal offshore oil and gas leases, representing the interests of the state.
- Four members from among coastal states that have an interest in offshore sand or other mineral resources or alternative energy uses of the OCS to represent those interests. Nominations for these four appointments will be accepted from the National Governor's Association.
- Six members to represent the following constituencies: environmental community, major oil industry, independent producers, natural gas industry, offshore service industries, and marine mining industry.
- Two members will represent local government. The local government representatives must be from different states.
- Two members representing energy consumers.

Ex officio, Non-Federal Positions

All other coastal state governors may designate a representative to participate in Committee deliberations. These representatives attend the meeting at their own expense and are nonvoting participants.

Federal Members

The following officials, or their designees, are nonvoting, ex officio members of the Committee:

- Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management
- Assistant Secretary – Fish and Wildlife and Parks
- Director, Minerals Management Service
- Secretary, Department of Commerce
- Secretary, Department of Defense
- Secretary, Department of Energy
- Secretary, Department of State
- Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
- Commandant, United States Coast Guard

Subcommittees

The Committee may establish subcommittees to study issues in-depth and to develop recommendations for consideration by the full Committee. Membership will be balanced in terms of perspective, subcommittee function, and expertise required by the subcommittee. Subcommittees may include people who are not members of the Committee. The Committee Chair will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittee members will be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when attending subcommittee or Committee meetings to present subcommittee deliberations to the full Committee. Subcommittee members will be reimbursed in accordance with Federal travel regulations as implemented by the Department of the Interior.

Officers

The Committee will elect from its membership a Chair, Vice Chair, and Parliamentarian to serve a 2-year term. The Associate Director for the Offshore Minerals Management Program, Minerals Management Service, or designee, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer and the Executive Secretary and will attend all meetings.

Meeting Minutes

Detailed minutes of each Committee meeting, recommendations made, and copies of all studies and reports received, issued, or approved in conjunction with the activities of the Committee will be available for public review at the following location:

Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street, Mail Stop 4001
Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817

Ethics Responsibilities of Members

A member may not participate in matters that will directly affect, or appear to affect, the financial interests of the member or the member's spouse or minor children, unless authorized by the Designated Federal Officer. Compensation from employment does not constitute a financial interest of the member so long as the matter before the Committee will not have a special or distinct effect on the member or the member's employer, other than as part of a class. The provisions of this paragraph do not affect any other statutory or regulatory ethical obligations to which a member may be subject.

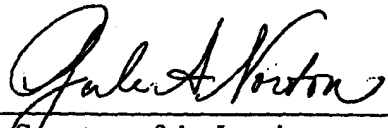
Internet Homepage

Information on the Committee may be found on MMS's Internet site, www.mms.gov.

Authority

We have determined that the Committee is in the public interest in connection with duties of the Department of the Interior. We have authority for these duties under the OCS Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 et. seq.).

The Committee activities will be governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), as amended, and implementing regulations.


Secretary of the Interior

MAR 18 2005

Date Signed

MAR 24 2005

Date Filed